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## **ABSTRACT**

A method is disclosed for determining the translational efficiency of an individual codon in a cell. The method comprises introducing into the cell a synthetic construct comprising a reporter polynucleotide fused in frame with a tandem repeat of said individual codon, wherein said reporter polynucleotide encodes a reporter protein, and wherein said synthetic construct is operably linked to a regulatory polynucleotide and measuring expression of said reporter protein in said cell to determine the translational efficiency of said codon.